water manufacturers of the country urging that they be exempted from the purview of Notification No. 223/87-CE dated 22-9-1987 withdrawing the benefit of duty exemption scheme to small scale manufacturers of specified goods, and

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto and action being taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EXPENDITURE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI B. K. GADHVI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The representation has been considered but it has not been found possible to agree to the request contained therein.

Rajghat Inter-state Project

2496 SHRI AJIT P. K. JOGI.
SHRIMATI RATAN KUMARI:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) what is the tatal cost of Rajghat inter-State Project and how much cost the Madhya Pradesh Government has to bear on this project;

(b) by when the Rajghat Project is likely to be completed and what are the bottlenecks for its completion as per schedule programme;

(c) what is the area to be benefited by this project in Madhya Pradesh and whether the canal system is being constructed with such a time schedule that Madhya Pradesh will start using its share of water as per schedule; and

(d) if not, what are the reasons for non-completion of canals in Madhya Pradesh and what steps are being taken to remove this bottleneck?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES AND THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) and (b) The approved cost of inter-State Rajghat Dam is about Rs. 123 crores. This is targetted for completion by March, 1992. The Madhya Pradesh Government has to bear 50 per cent of the cost.

(c) and (d) An area of over 1 1 lakh hectares will progressively get irrigation benefit subject to the availability of resources in the next Plan.

Child Labour

2497. SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of children, who deserve to be in schools, are employed all over the country in jobs which only adults can handle; and

(b) if so, what steps are being taken by Government to curb the meance of child labour?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA). (a) It It is true that there are a large number of child workers in the country engaged in various occupations.

(b) To tackle the problem of child labour Government have enacted the Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986 which prohibits the employment of children below 14 years in certain specified occupations and processes and seeks to regulate the working conditions of children in employments in which children are not prohibited from working. The Government has also formulated a National Policy on Child Labour which inter-alia provides for effective implementation of the legal provisions relating to child labour; focussing of general welfare and development programmes for the benefit of child labour and their families, and the taking up of projects in ten areas of concentration of child labour to provide welfare inputs like education, health care, skill development etc. to the working children.

Import of pistols for Para-military and Police Forces

2498. SHRI SATYA PAL MALIK: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that pistols for the use of para-military and police forecs